

## LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

We claim:

1. (Currently amended) A connecting system (18) for connecting a stent (10) to a radiopaque marker, ~~characterised in that the connecting system (18) includes~~ comprising at least one gripping connection (18) comprising a gripping element (20, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3) and a clamping element (22, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3).
2. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that the radiopaque marker itself is in the form of a gripping or clamping element (20, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, 22, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3) of the gripping connection (18).~~
3. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~or claim 2 characterised in that the marker is formed from a biocompatible material.~~
4. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in claim 3, wherein ~~characterised in that the marker entirely or in parts~~ at least in part comprises one or more metals selected from the group consisting of Ta, Nb, Zr, Hf, Mo, W, Au, Pt, Ir, rare earths ~~or~~ and alloys thereof.
5. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in claim 4, wherein ~~characterised in that the marker entirely or in parts~~ at least in part comprises PtIr.
6. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that the gripping or clamping element (20, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, 22, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3) of the gripping connection (18) is formed on a basic structure (15) of the stent (10).~~

7. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in claim 6, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the connecting system (18) is integrated into the basic structure (15) in such a way that it does not project or projects at most to a slight extent in a radial direction beyond the dimensions of a peripheral wall (13) of the basic structure (15).
8. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in claim 6, wherein ~~or claim 7 characterised in that~~ the gripping or clamping element (22) is arranged at the proximal end of the stent (10).
9. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in claim 6, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the gripping or clamping element (20, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, 22, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3) is formed from a biodegradable material.
10. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in ~~one or more of the preceding claims characterised in that~~ claim 1, wherein the stent (10) is self-expanding.
11. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in ~~one or more of the preceding claims characterised in that~~ claim 1, wherein the stent (10) is biodegradable.
12. (Currently amended) A connecting system as set forth in claim 11, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the stent (10) is formed entirely or in parts from a biodegradable Mg-alloy.

13. (Currently amended) A process for the production of a connection between a stent ~~(10)~~ and two or more radiopaque markers by means of a connecting system ~~(18)~~ as set forth in ~~one or more of claims 1 through 12 characterised in that~~ claim 1, wherein:

(a) two or more markers are connected together by way of a positioning element ~~(40)~~ so that the markers are aligned with their gripping or clamping elements ~~(20, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, 22, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3)~~ with the corresponding gripping or clamping elements ~~(20, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, 22, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3)~~ of the stent ~~(10)~~,

(b) in a working step the markers are placed with their gripping or clamping elements ~~(20, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, 22, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3)~~ on to the corresponding gripping or clamping elements ~~(20, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, 22, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3)~~ of the stent ~~(10)~~, and

(c) then the connection between the positioning element ~~(40)~~ and the gripping or clamping elements ~~(20, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, 22, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3)~~ of the marker is separated.

14. (New) A process for the production of a connection between a stent and two or more radiopaque markers by means of a connecting system as set forth in claim 4, wherein:

(a) two or more markers are connected together by way of a positioning element so that the markers are aligned with their gripping or clamping elements with the corresponding gripping or clamping elements of the stent ,

(b) in a working step the markers are placed with their gripping or clamping elements on to the corresponding gripping or clamping elements of the stent, and

(c) then the connection between the positioning element and the gripping or clamping elements of the marker is separated.

15. (New) A process for the production of a connection between a stent and two or more radiopaque markers by means of a connecting system as set forth in claim 9, wherein:

(a) two or more markers are connected together by way of a positioning element so that the markers are aligned with their gripping or clamping elements with the corresponding gripping or clamping elements of the stent ,

(b) in a working step the markers are placed with their gripping or clamping elements on to the corresponding gripping or clamping elements of the stent, and

(c) then the connection between the positioning element and the gripping or clamping elements of the marker is separated.

16. (New) A process for the production of a connection between a stent and two or more radiopaque markers by means of a connecting system as set forth in claim 10, wherein:

(a) two or more markers are connected together by way of a positioning element so that the markers are aligned with their gripping or clamping elements with the corresponding gripping or clamping elements of the stent ,

(b) in a working step the markers are placed with their gripping or clamping elements on to the corresponding gripping or clamping elements of the stent, and

(c) then the connection between the positioning element and the gripping or clamping elements of the marker is separated.

17. (New) A connecting system as set forth in claim 2, wherein the marker is formed from a biocompatible material.

18. (New) A connecting system as set forth in claim 17, wherein the marker at least in part comprises PtIr.

19. (New) A connecting system as set forth in claim 9, wherein the stent is self-expanding.

20. (New) A connecting system as set forth in claim 19, wherein the stent is biodegradable.